

Questions? Email Mrs. "S": [schrotenboers@pcsb.org](mailto:schrotenboers@pcsb.org)

## **AP Research Summer Assignment**

All assignments are due on the first day of AP Research class. Please bring a paper copy of your assignment and have an electronic copy accessible on your OneDrive account through PCSB.

This assignment will orient you to the nature and responsibilities of research and provide opportunities to explore your research topic. Type all responses for #s 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 in Times New Roman, Size 12. Scan and embed #3 in your document if you create it by hand. If you type the flow chart for #3 or create another visual, ensure it is properly placed in your assignment prior to submission.

**1. Read the AP Research course overview at:**

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-research-course-overview.pdf>

Write a five-sentence paragraph on your understanding of the course and its two Performance Task requirements that comprise the AP Exam.

**2. Visit the AP Research Exam information page at:**

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-research/exam>

Read one high-scoring sample academic paper along with the rubric and scoring commentary. Write a five-sentence synopsis of the academic paper, including purpose(s) for the research, methods used, results, and conclusions reached by the researchers. Label the synopsis by the year and title of the paper (e.g., 2017 "Big Hero Six").

**3. Read the College Board's Policy on AI Use and Plagiarism specific to AP Capstone:**

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/exam-administration-ordering-scores/administering-exams/preparing-for-exam-day/exam-security/artificial-intelligence-tools#:~:text=AP%20Capstone%20Policy-,Generative%20AI%20tools%20must%20be%20used%20ethically%2C%20responsibly%2C%20and%20intentionally,working%20on%20the%20performance%20tasks>

Prepare a flow chart that demonstrates the process of researching a topic, including the appropriate places to use AI, according to the College Board website. Use a simple topic to perform this task (ie: proper dog care or sunscreen choices).

**4. Brainstorming a Possible Topic:**

a. Research possible topics you are interested in pursuing for your AP Research Academic Paper (4,000-5,000 words). Write down three to five possible topics.

b. Choose one of the issues you listed that you consider the one topic you may want to research. What is a current issue you are interested in?

c. Why are you interested in this issue?

d. Does this issue have more than one perspective you would like to examine? If so, what are the perspectives? Provide details about how each perspective relates to the topic.

e. What are your own personal feelings on this issue? Explain why you feel this way.

## **5. Formulate a Research Question**

As you know, AP Research requires students to find a gap in existing research and to fill that gap with their own. Over the summer, please draft three possible research questions.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Be prepared to complete a literature review (IRR) for one of the above questions in the first week of school.

## **6. Prepare Your Research Methods Handbook**

For each research method:

1. Define the method and cite your source
2. Find at least 2 academic papers that use this method, insert links
3. Create a mini-abstract (small summary) of how the author of each academic paper uses the research method

- Case Study research
- Content analysis
- Correlational research
- Delphi research
- Descriptive research
- Ethnographic
- Evaluation research
- Experimental research
- Factor analysis
- Grounded Theory
- Hermeneutic research
- Historical research
- Meta-analysis research
- Narrative research
- Needs assessment
- Phenomenography
- Phenomenology
- Semiology
- Trend Analysis research